

Hongkong Daily Press.

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THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.

LONDON OFFICE: 181, FLEET STREET, E.C.

HONGKONG, 6th May, 1901

In 1838, with the formation of the Anti-Corn Law League may be said to have commenced the Reign of Free Trade. In 1842, under the guidance of Sir Robert Peel, the effects of the new rule began to be felt, in the removal from the Tariff of a large number of petty duties. At the time there were enumerated no less than twelve hundred dutiable articles; and in order to make good the calculated deficiency, the Chancellor of the Exchequer introduced an income tax, as he stated, merely as a temporary measure. Sir Robert Peel, though as probably the most far-seeing financier of the century, and as such an advocate of the necessity of freeing trade as far as possible from the old bonds, which under the name of protection really acted as swaddling clothes, and prevented all wholesome movement, had no idea that he was introducing what after a few years became, to at least one political school, an actual religion. The question with him was simply the advantage or the contrary of removing duties, which by hampering the interchange of commodities generally, reacted injuriously on the trade of the country at large. Free Traders have existed since the times of Mencius at least; and their arguments as capable of rigid proof, will doubtless in the not distant future prevail even more widely than they do now. The actual consequence of the policy then adopted was that England for a time became divided into two mutually hostile camps, whose shibboleths were respectively Free Trade and Protection. The results of the policy introduced by the great financier were, however, so clearly beneficial to the general interests of the State that after a decisive campaign they were accepted by the nation without exception; and Great Britain became as fervent a worshipper at the altar of Free Trade as ever did Israelite of old at the shrines of Baal or Ashtoreth. As a matter of course, with a new religion grew up new signs and watchwords, and a doctrine as hard as the Athanasian Creed became the common property of the nation. *Credo quia impossibile est*, was the test to be applied to all candidates for honours of any description, however humble. Had the zeal for the new cult been according to knowledge, little was to be said against this inter-

pretation of the tokens of the faith; unfortunately it was the lot of Free Trade that it fell into the hands of the dilettante—the mere superficial men who, without any understanding of the principles, had got hold of the watchwords, and were ready to misuse the popular cry whenever some momentarily unpopular issue came to be discussed. One of the first duties to be removed under the free trade movement was the strictly protectionist duty levied on foreign sugar in the interest of the planters of the West Indies. The differential duty was indefensible on every ground, political or economical; and its repeal would have proved in the end beneficial to the islands themselves, as leading to the cultivation for which they were best adapted. On the other hand, the Continental Powers were desirous of competing in the production of sugar in contravention of all economic principles, by paying high bounties on the raising of sugar crops from plants eminently unsuited for its growth, and thereby throwing out of profitable cultivation large areas which under other crops might have brought wealth to the countries at large. On the taking off sugar the protectionist duties the Continental Powers, instead of following in the course that reason dictated, raised still higher their bounties as the price of sugar fell in the market. As Great Britain was really at the time the largest consumer of sugar in the world, she had in her own hands, by refusing to receive this protected sugar, the means of striking an effective blow against the principle of protection, as well as of placing her own colonies in a proper position to carry on her own free trade policy. Her people had unfortunately learnt the shibboleth without the reason of free trade; and for the sake of admitting sugar at a rate below the cost of production, called out the interference with this system of bountified protection, as if the placing of the colonies, as well as France and Germany, on an equal basis were an offence against economic laws. The result of this falsely called free trade was, of course, the ruin of her West Indian colonies, and for a time the sugar interest of Great Britain was really batten on the vitals of British trade. Fortunately the economical errors which Great Britain herself refused to see are becoming apparent to the Continental Powers, who find the acreage thus divorced from any useful crop are gradually making those countries themselves dependent on foreign countries for their very necessities of life. The above is only given as an indication of how far the people of Great Britain have wandered from an appreciation of the principles at stake. Many others could be adduced. It is now many years since England placed any restriction on the export of coal from her mines. For many years it has been pointed out that the turnout of coals from her mines was bound, before a long time had elapsed, to be fatal to her own industries. She was wasting her own capital, while affording actual help to others. If coal were a commodity which once taken from the ground could be replaced, the checking of the export would of course be an interference with the course of trade; yet even in such circumstances a prudent state may find interference politic. Most civilised states, for instance, feel compelled to check the unrestrained export of timber—not that timber is not a perfectly legitimate staple of export, but that the temptation to exhaust the future supply for the immediate benefit of the moment is one that is apt to be too strong for ordinary mortals. The state has wider and more continuing interests than the private individual, and as we do not apply the principle of free-trading to include the permission of each individual to rob or cheat his neighbour, so neither do these necessary checks on the injuries of the state for the benefit of the individual conflict with the principle of free-trade. Although in the abstract it would be doubtless better that no duties or taxes of any kind should be levied, it has been found essential to maintain a government in order to prevent liberty degenerating into licence. It is the object of the financier to arrange these burdens necessarily imposed so that they should be least oppressive to the nation at large. Experience has proved that heavy burdens on trade are not only burdensome to the individual, but by removing the possibility of profitable trading, are hurtful to the nation. This is what the apostles of free-trade sought to teach; not that the duties were in themselves sinful, as the doctrine of the day would fain have us believe. It is this latest phase of the doctrine that lately has been brought into prominence by men who, in their slavery to a cry, would sap the foundations of the principle on which that cry was originally founded. Much of the opposition to the proposal of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to place a tax on the export of coal really proceeds from this claptrap of men unable to work out the problem for themselves. If we are to venture an opinion on the future of the question, it is that the duty on exported coal has come to remain, and that instead of its being restricted to a mere

shilling per ton, it will in the long run rise to a height which will place a real limit on the waste of the country's capital stock of energy. Energy, unfortunately, cannot be manufactured. We have been favoured by nature in possessing a large reserve stock admirably situated for cheap winning. Why should we present to our neighbours these advantages, which once lost never can be replaced?

Mr. E. A. Irving has been appointed Inspector of Schools.

Mr. Wong Wing-chiu has been appointed First Clerk in the Registrar General's office in succession to Mr. P. J. Wodehouse, promoted.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that Mr. C. Clement, cadet, passed his final examination in Chinese on the 20th December last.

Mr. T. S. Forrest won the Championship of the Hongkong Golf Club on Friday, defeating Mr. C. M. G. Burns by 2 up and one to play in a 36-hole match.

H.M.S. *Aurora* left on Saturday for Tung Ying Island. The French torpedo-boat-destroyer *Takou* arrived from Amoy. Yesterday H.M.S. *Algerie* left for Singapore.

During the 24 hours ending at noon on Saturday, there were reported 13 fresh cases of plague, with 12 deaths (all Chinese). There were no additions to the small-pox figures.

The usual weekly prayer meeting in connection with the Hongkong Christian Union will be held in the Music Room at the City Hall, to-day, at 5.15 p.m. Dr. C. R. Hager will preside.

A practice competition, at ranges of 300, 400, and 500 yards, open to members of the Field Battery, Hongkong Volunteer Corps, was held at the Rifle Association range, Kowloon, yesterday. Firing commenced at 9 a.m.

A special meeting of the Sanitary Board is summoned for 12 noon to-day, for the purpose of considering a report of the Medical Officer of Health concerning an outbreak of foot and mouth disease among the Siege Train cattle at Kowloon.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Nethercole Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the funds of the Hospitals:

Leopold Spatz & Co.	...	\$10
A Patient	...	5

The Mother Superior of the Italian Convent begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following sums for the extension of the Convent:

Mrs. O'Sullivan	...	\$50
An Old Pupil	...	10

The transport which is to take away the Remount Depot, Indian Contingent, now lying at Causeway Bay, is due here on Friday next, and she will leave the Harbour this day week for Taku to await orders. Capt. A. G. Turner 13th Bengal Lancers, is in command of the depot.

Mr. Erich Georg says in his weekly share list, dated Hongkong, 4th May.—The business of the past week has been specially characterised by a sharp rise in Dock Shares, while Banks, Fire Insurance Shares and a few other stocks have also benefited. The market closes strong.

The *N.-C. Daily News* speaks of the Cheng-wu-chu, a new board constituted by the Throne for the transaction of Government business. It consists of Prince Ching, Li Hung-chang, Wang Wen-shao, Kuan Kang, Yang Lu, and Lu Chuan-shin, with Liu Kung-yi and Chang Chih-tung as advisory assistants. The new board is ostensibly a reform commission for the administration of affairs until the return of the Emperor, but really it is to be a Council of Regency.

The following are the returns of the average amount of bank notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 30th April, as certified by the Managers of the respective Banks:

Banks.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China	2,574,438	1,500,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	9,061,807	5,000,000
National Bank of China, Limited	429,151	150,000
Total	\$12,065,471	\$6,500,000

Since the opening to traffic of the ports in the Gulf of Pechili and on the eastern coast of Siberia, which were frozen over during the winter months, says the *Shanghai Mercury*, the rates of freight on coal have greatly increased, owing to the accumulation of merchandise awaiting transportation between this country and the above-mentioned ports. The freight on coal from this port is now quoted at 1.75 yen per ton for Shanghai, 2.65 yen for Hongkong, and 3.10 yen for Port Arthur. There is a tendency of a further rise in freights.

We regret to have to record the death of one European from plague—that of Mr. H. C. Howarth, who died in the Peak Hospital yesterday forenoon, after a very short illness. The deceased has been for some little time an assistant with Messrs. Watson & Co., at the Hongkong Dispensary in Queen's Road. Another of the firm's employees, Mr. H. Thorne, who has not been a year yet in Hongkong, was removed to Kennedy Town on Saturday suffering from plague. He is progressing favourably. It is, of course, not known for certain how they contracted the disease, but numbers of dead rats, we learn, have been found recently on the premises, from which it may be suspected that these vermin carried the infection.

Mr. C. S. Sharp has been appointed a member of the Medical Board in place of Mr. Marshall resigned.

Major Scott, of the Sikhs now at Peking, is on his way south, having been granted twelve month's sick furlough.

In the railway accident near Lofu, on the Tientsin-Peking railway at the end of last month, seventeen Chinese were killed and one American injured.

At a meeting of the Allied Generals at Peking it was unanimously agreed that the administration of Peking should be allowed to revert gradually to the Chinese. The Field-Marshal's former proposals as to strength and disposition of the troops were confirmed.

We have received No. 1 of Vol. I of *The Toyo*, a fortnightly magazine published at Tokyo, a few pages in English, but mainly in Japanese. It is the organ of Prince Konoze, and is to be devoted to the politics, economics, literature, etc., of the Orient.

A Paris telegram of the 25th ult., quotes General Veyron's report on the French troops in North China. Their health and general condition are excellent, while their behaviour "has not ceased to be irreproachable." The latter remark will be appreciated in Tientsin.

The Chinese ex-minister to Russia, the late Hsu Ching-cheng, spent over ten thousand taels in founding a school in Peking for the study of Russian. The Boxers destroyed it and now the site is included in the new Legation area. A Manchou, it is said, intends reopening the school shortly.

The first-class armoured Japanese cruiser *Iyate*, which left Devonport hurriedly for the Far East with only a portion of her ammunition, left Colombo on the 27th ult., and was due to arrive at Singapore on the 3rd inst. She stays there only long enough to coal and will proceed direct to Japan.

The total value of the trade between New South Wales and Japan last year amounted to £256,030. Of this £122,041 represented imports and £133,987 exports. Compared with the preceding year the imports showed an increase of £17,519 or 17 per cent, and the exports an increase of £12,494 or 10 per cent.

A *Mainichi* telegram dated Tokyo, 25th April, says:—It was previously reported that the Russian marines in Bankum, near Musampo—fifteen in all, under command of an officer—would be withdrawn in deference to the representation of the Japanese Government, but the latest arrangement is that seven men shall stay there as police, it being understood that they are not to carry weapons.

The Japanese coolie assaulted by Mr. Gilmour, third officer of the *Ajao*, has brought an action in the civil section of the Yokohama Court against Mr. Gilmour, claiming 40 yen as damages, being medical expenses, etc., arising out of the assault. Judge Kobayashi heard the case, and in the absence of defendant (who was serving his sentence of 15 days' imprisonment inflicted in the assault case) rendered a verdict for the plaintiff for the full amount claimed.

The *Kobe Chronicle* recalls the case of nine Chinese charged at the Kobe Chihio Shikasho with smoking opium. The man in whose room they were found acknowledged that he had supplied the Chinese with opium, and was sentenced to six years' imprisonment. The remaining eight denied the offence, but the Court found them guilty and sentenced them to one year's imprisonment each. Our contemporary very justly remarks:—"The sentences inflicted appear monstrous."

Sir Robert Hart, according to the *Mercure*, is credited with recommending the following plans to the Chinese Government. The curtailment of the cost of feeding the Eight Banners of Manchuria, the abolition of the *lekin* dues; 30 million taels to be collected yearly from salt tax, customs receipts, and toll dues at Peking; and to levy a poll tax of five mome on the whole population exclusive of old people and children, the estimated revenue from this source being 100 million yen per annum.

A gigantic block of iron ore weighing 96 tons, ordered from England by the Kure arsenal, was brought to Kure by the *Asa Maru* some days ago, says the *Japan Times*. It is said that much difficulty was experienced when the heavy article was shipped at Liverpool, there being, it is understood, no provision made for such a task. The case was quite otherwise, however, when the leviathan cake of iron was unloaded at Kure, as the arsenal is equipped with a crane capable of raising 150 tons. It is curious to know that this is the first instance that such a heavy single object was landed on these shores.

According to the testimony of shipping people the other side of the Pacific, the steamer *Hongkong Maru* on her last voyage carried across an exceptionally rich cargo, one of the most valuable, in fact, that has ever been exported from the Orient. The freight was made up principally of 500 cases of opium, valued at \$250 in gold in case, the freight upon which was 34 gold a case, and 1,250 bales or 120 tons of silk, valued at about \$600,000. The aggregate value of the *Hongkong Maru's* cargo of 2,926 tons, approximated \$2,000,000.

The steamer was two days late in leaving Hongkong, and was further delayed by going south of Hongkong to Macao for the consignment of opium. Then, with fair weather prevailing, the steamer started on the trip to San Francisco, gaining time to Yokohama, and making up the entire two days by the time Honolulu was reached. Starting outward in good time she made the trip from Hongkong in 24 days and 23 hours.

TELEGRAMS.

"DAILY PRESS" SERVICE.
[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.]

THE CRISIS IN CHINA.

* SHANGHAI, 3rd May, 8 p.m.

COURT'S LATEST DESTINATION.

Famine having rendered impossible the Imperial Court's remaining in Shansi, they are proceeding promptly to Kaifeng-fu, the ancient capital of the Sung dynasty in Honan.

TUNG'S LETTER TO YUNG LU.

A letter is published from General Tung Fuhsiang to Yung Lu, in which the former states that he acted entirely under the latter's order. He now contrasts his own disgrace with Yung Lu's honour.

* Delayed in transmission.

London, 3rd May, 9.40 p.m.

POWERS PROPOSE A LOAN.

Dr. Morrison telegraphs to the *Times* that the Ministers of the Powers generally favour a loan of sixty-five millions under international guarantee. They unanimously recommend as securities the Imperial Maritime Customs and an increase of the import tariff, effective at 5 per cent.

GENERAL NEWS.

London, 5th May, 12.5 p.m.

THE GERMAN MINISTERIAL CRISIS.

The news is confirmed that Herr von Miquel has resigned. So also have two other Ministers, Hammerstein and Brofeld.

RUSSIA AND FRANCE.

It is reported that Russia is seeking a French loan of 500,000,000 francs.

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY'S

SPEECHES.

President McKinley's speeches on his tour are interpreted to indicate a partial reversal of the Dingley protectionist tariff.

MONEY MARKET.

Consols stand at 94½. Weekly advances on the loan market range from 2½ to 2½ per cent. Japanese New Loans are at 279. Bank rate is unchanged.

Cotton is quiet. A heavy fall in American railways on the Stock Exchange has almost led to a panic.

London, 3rd May, 9.40 p.m.

THE NEW WAR LOAN.

Of the new War Loan, the Rothschilds take £11,000,000, Pierpont Morgan's syndicate £10,000,000, and the Bank of England £9,000,000.

CHANCELLOR OF EXCHEQUER

FIRM ON COAL TAX.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach adheres to the Coal Tax. He declared in the House of Commons that the coal-owners last year netted a profit of £84,000,000 on a capital of £110,000,000.

PRUSSIAN CANAL BILL.

A political crisis has occurred in Prussia over the Canal Bill. It is stated that Herr von Miquel has resigned.

REUTERS'S SERVICE.

London, 2nd May.

THE THREATENED STRIKE OF COAL MINERS.

It is estimated that 750,000 miners will go out on strike if the decision of the Miners' Federation is executed.

ARMY REFORM.

Mr. Brodrick, speaking at Guildford, expressed his determination to execute a scheme for the reorganisation of the Army without delay. He declared his willingness to face any unpopularity, but he would not with Lord Roberts at his back.

London, 2nd May.

OTTOMAN MISSION TO CHINA.

The Ottoman Mission to China has left Constantinople. It consists of Military Musliman clergy, charged to enter into relations with Muslims in China. Russia is opposed throughout to the mission. Germany is in favour of it.

THE COAL TAX.

Sir William Harcourt has denounced the Proposed Coal Tax as aliphad, alaphdash, reactionary finance. He points out the effects upon trade in the darkest colours. The opposition will resist every stage.

London, 3rd May.

THE COAL TAX.

The debate on the proposed coal tax is of unexpected length. An adjournment has been made until Monday.

FRANCE AND RUSSIA.

It is stated in St. Petersburg that during the recent visit of M. Delcassé, an understanding was reached between France and Russia in regard to the Chinese question.

KING'S MESSAGE TO HONGKONG.

The following circular despatch is published in the *Gazette*—

Downing Street.

30th March 1901.

Sir,—I had the honour to lay before His Majesty the King your despatch No. 53 of the 11th ultimo, enclosing an account of the proceedings of the Legislative Council of Hongkong held on the 31st of January last.

2. His Majesty has commanded me to request you to assure the Legislative Council that he highly appreciates their assurance of the loyalty of the Colony.

I have the honour to be, Sir, Your most obedient, humble servant,
J. CHAMBERLAIN.
Governor, Sir H. A. Blake, G.C.M.G.

THE STRANDED "SOBRAON."

There was on Saturday nothing new of importance to relate regarding the steamer *Sobraon*. Indeed, according to telegrams which had been received by Mr. Ritchie from the P. & O. Company's agents in Foochow, it will be impossible for three or four days to say definitely whether or not there is a chance of finding the ship.

The P. & O. Company has chartered the coasting steamer *Chefoo* to assist the *Cerramandel* in the salvage operations, and also to maintain communication with Foochow. The *Chefoo* will further prove useful in the towing of junks cargo-laden from the stranded steamer. To act in conjunction with the *Chefoo*, the Foochow agents of the Company have hired a tug, which is leaving that port at once for Tung Yung Island.

Latest advices from Tung Yung say that the weather is calm, and that there is every likelihood of its continuing so.

With regard to the junk which is reported to have disappeared with a great quantity of passengers' baggage, no official confirmation has been received at the Company's offices here, but Mr. Ritchie is inclined to believe that the report is true. He states that a Chinese gunboat, which has already been several times to the scene of the wreck, is now patrolling to prevent the recurrence of such practical happenings in the future. The gunboat carries a large number of Chinese soldiers on board. It is expected that the ascending junk will be captured.

Yesterday the P. & O. office here was in receipt of no telegrams regarding the wreck.

A correspondent, writing to the *N.-C. Daily News*, gives the following testimony to the excellent order on board the *Sobraon*.—The first thing noticed—the lights had not gone out—was that the boat-falls were down, evidently the boats were in the water. Men were moving about more freely than before, but still without any trace of confusion, all apparently engaged provisioning the boats. Someone told us to muster forward on a broad part of the hurricane deck. To this point all the ladies and children moved. Several expeditions below were made for wraps and valises. All this time the vessel was on an even keel; we knew she was aground, that was all. As among the crew so among the passengers. No hurry, no confusion. Hardly a baby crying. Coffee was served out with biscuits. More wraps were brought up and by this time most were fully dressed. About this time the ship bumped a little, very little, and began to list to starboard in the direction in which I had observed what seemed to be a cliff surmounted by a large stone, which gave it the appearance of a house with a chimney. The passengers were gathered on the starboard side of the hurricane deck a little forward of midships. Word was passed that the women and children were to go forward. Quietness and order reigned without pause within. And they disappeared forward into the gloom. By this time it was not very easy to retain a foothold on the wet deck. Then word came for the men to move forward, but the elderly and sick were helped by the whole and strong among the passengers, as all were by the stewards and others of the ship's company. None went empty-handed, for little had gone with the women and children. It was very dark, the moon was about five days old, and the fog was as thick as ever. We passed slowly forward and found Captain Wilmer standing at the head of the companion ladder. And now for the first time I heard an order given. It was from the captain himself and was given to the officer in charge of the boat to move away to anchor beside the others and so make way for another at the foot of the companion ladder. Everything had been done orderly, all but silently.

LATEST STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

The Sikh ex-*C. P. R. Co's* steamer *Empress of China*, arrived at New York on the 1st instant.

The Imperial German Mail steamer *Hamburg*, carrying the German mails with dates from Berlin of the 15th April, left Colombo on the 3rd inst. p.m., and may be expected here on or about Tuesday, the 14th inst.

By the last Australian mail we learn that the jury fee question has arisen for the Brisbane District Court. During the hearing of a suit the jury applied for increased fees, it being the seventh day of hearing. His Honour ordered a fee of two guineas to be paid to the jury for that day and any subsequent days. Counsel for the defendant said he had sixteen other witnesses to call. As, however, the jury had intimated that they did not desire further evidence, he would refrain from calling more witnesses. Counsel said he might have called other witnesses for the plaintiff, but had considered the evidence of six would be sufficient. He had intended to call evidence in rebuttal, but would refrain in view of the intimation made by the jury. Judge Noel said he quite concurred in the request of the jury for additional remuneration.

THEATRE ROYAL.

On Saturday night the Brough Company produced the late Oscar Wilde's brilliant play *An Ideal Husband* before a full house, which included H. R. the Governor, Lady Blake, and party. The performance was perhaps the greatest triumph of our visitors' season. *An Ideal Husband* is certainly the cleverest play on their list, and the witty dialogue alone is sufficient to differentiate it from the others. The company rose well to the occasion and interpreted their parts in such a way as to win unqualified applause. It is a pity that there can be no second performance of this comedy. It will be long, we fear, before so good an entertainment will be witnessed again in Hongkong.

Great disappointment was felt when Mr. Robert Brough's name was not seen in the cast, but fortunately this proved due to an error in the programme. Mr. P. Brough's name being substituted for the actor-manager's. Lord Goring therefore was played by the latter; needless almost to say, to everyone's full satisfaction. Mrs. Brough took the part of the adventuress, Lady Cheveloy, and appeared to advantage. Lady Chiltern was taken by Miss Temple, who interpreted her role very gracefully. Miss Noble as Mabel Chiltern added not more to her successes. As Lady Markby Miss Bessie Thompson certainly made her best bit of the season. She has been consistently good; on Saturday she had the advantage of being brilliant. As Robert Chiltern Mr. Lovell gave an admirable sketch of the blackmailed politician with a past. Mr. McLeary was a trifle too gentle as the Earl; his "Robert, you're heartless, quite heartless!" was hardly spoken with parental conviction. The other characters were well sustained, and a special word must be spoken for Mr. Victor's portrayal of Phipps.

The concluding nights of the Brough season at the Theatre Royal will be devoted to the revival of three popular plays, *Sowing the Wind*, *A Village Priest* and *Nicolas*. Sydney Grundy's work, *Sowing the Wind*, will be presented to-night. It is easy to understand the consistent support that has for a number of years been given to this play of Grundy's. Without being showy or sensational, it has a well-defined plot, and it handles an always interesting subject with much delicacy and skill. Although here and there the author of *Sowing the Wind* deals in strong colours, he cannot be accused of exaggeration, either as regards language or incidents. The action proceeds quietly for the most part. The play has a certain old-world air; the period is that of the last century, and the costumes embody the loose folds and flowing robes that prevailed before the crinoline had its day. Mrs. Brough will revive pleasant memories in the part of Rosamond, among all who witnessed her performance of the character last season. It is with Mr. Brough, however, that the working-out of the author's problem rests. It is he who has "sowed the wind" so effectively, that a mother has died and a daughter has had to submit to social ostracism; but in the end he, too, reaps the harvest.

To-morrow night *A Village Priest* will be staged, and on Wednesday *Nicolas* will bring the season to a close.

NEW PRAYA RECLAMATION SCHEME.

The following further correspondence has been forwarded to us for publication.

MR. CHATER TO THE ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Hongkong, 30th April, 1901.

Sir—1. Referring to previous correspondence on the subject of the proposals for the reclamation of the foreshore at Wanchai, I have now the honour to hand you for submission to His Excellency the Governor, a report of the proceedings at a meeting of the Marine Lot-holders in the Wanchai District, held to consider the question. I also transmit copies of Resolutions passed at that meeting, which was held in the City Hall on Wednesday last, the 17th inst.

2. There were present at the meeting, or represented, all the Marine Lot-holders interested except two, and I have no reason to believe that any opposition need be expected from either of these. Of the absent one of them I am assured. At that meeting I fully explained to the persons present the details of the project and the course of the negotiations with the Government, and was prepared to answer any questions or consider any suggestions that might be put forward. There were, however, none. My address to the meeting is fully and accurately reported, as are all the proceedings. The Resolutions were passed by a unanimous vote, and I was duly authorized to forward them to you.

3. I have now, therefore, to request that you will move His Excellency the Governor to transmit the whole of the plans, correspondence, and papers connected with the proposed Reclamation to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies at as early a date as possible, with His Excellency's report and recommendations thereon.

I feel sure that after the very full and careful consideration given to this matter by Sir Henry Blake, he will feel himself in a position to urge strongly on the Secretary of State the merits of the scheme and the advisability of proceeding with it without delay, and that, with the support afforded by His Excellency, there can be no doubt of the approval of the Home Government.

4. Before the correspondence is transmitted to the Secretary of State, may I, however, be permitted to call attention to one trifling inaccuracy in your letter to me of the 12th February last. In the 4th paragraph of that letter you say that His Excellency is of opinion that the proposed reclamation should be "at least 25 cents per square foot." The phrasing is a little ambiguous, and might be open hereafter to dispute or question. May I suggest that the words "at least" should be eliminated. My understanding with His Excellency was that the premium should be 25 cents a square foot. Your letter leaves it open apparently to the Government to claim hereafter a higher rate of premium, and that is a point that cannot well be left open or in doubt. The Marine Lot-holders will, of course, be entering into any definite agreement to have the premium fixed.

5. Will you further kindly move His Excellency to give directions that the requisite Surveys, Reports, Plans and Estimates be proceeded with forthwith. The Marine Lot-holders have bound themselves to hear and pay all the

expenses thereof, and it will immensely facilitate the progress of the work if all the necessary information can be obtained and thrown into shape during the three months that must elapse before the Secretary of State's decision can be known in the Colony.

If the Public Works Department are too fully occupied to give prompt attention to the work of preparing surveys, plans and estimates, perhaps His Excellency would feel inclined to get the work done by some firm of architects and engineers practising in the Colony, but under the supervision, of course, of the Director of Public Works. I think there would be no difficulty in finding competent men free to take up the work and proceed with it promptly. I have the honour to be, Sir, Your most obedient servant.

(Signed) C. P. CHATER.
Hon. T. Sercombe Smith, Acting Colonial Secretary.

RESOLVED.

1. That the proposals for the Wanchai Reclamation embodied in the correspondence between Mr. Chater and the Government published in the local papers be accepted in principle, and Mr. Chater is hereby authorized to forward this resolution to the Colonial Secretary.
2. That the holders of lots fronting the sea and the Government to proceed forthwith with the preliminary surveys and plans, and undertake to contribute in proportion to their marine frontages to the expenses incurred by the Government in so doing.

THE ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY TO MR. CHATER.
Colonial Secretary's Office.
Hongkong, 30th April, 1901.

Sir—With reference to paragraph 4 of your letter of the 20th April, 1901, submitting a report of the proceedings at a meeting of the Marine Lot-holders in the Wanchai District, held to consider your proposals for the reclamation of the foreshore at Wanchai, I am directed to inform you that this Government definitely adopts twenty-five cents as the premium per square foot to be paid. I have the honour to be, Sir, Your most obedient servant.

T. SERCOMBE SMITH,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G.

POLICE COURT.

Saturday, 4th May.

BEFORE MR. HAZELAND.

DRUNK AND INCAPABLE.
James Leong, engineer, Star Coffee House, D'Almeida Street, was charged with being drunk and incapable in the public street on the 3rd inst.

Defendant did not appear, and his Worship ordered the \$5 fine to be estimated.

DANGEROUS GOODS.

Kwok I was charged with (1) unlawfully neglecting to hoist a red flag on her cargo-boat while having on board dangerous goods, to wit, sulphuric acid, on the 3rd inst., and (2) unlawfully conveying same by water without having marked "dangerous" on the 3rd inst., in the harbour of Hongkong.

Police-Sergeant Sullivan having proved the offence, Mr. Hazeland fined her \$10 or seven days on the first charge, and \$5 or two days imprisonment on the second charge.

ROGUES AND VAGABONDS.

Lam Ying and three of his friends, all described as coolies, and of no fixed abode, were charged with being rogues and vagabonds with no visible means of subsistence, on the 4th inst.

Police-Sergeant McSwayed said that at 4 a.m. on the 4th inst., accompanied by P.C. 306, he went to Stanley Street, and found the four defendants lying in the street. He arrested them and in the charge room they were searched, four cents only being found on the fourth defendant, and nothing whatever on the other three.

All offered various excuses, which availed them nothing, however, and they retired for 14 days' hard labour.

ARMS CONFISCATED.

Fon Sing, described as a schoolmaster and residing at 79, Queen's Road Central, was brought up for unlawfully having in his possession a revolver and ten cartridges without a permit from the Captain Superintendent of Police on the 4th inst.

Police-Sergeant McSwayed proved finding the revolver and cartridges in defendant's possession. Three of the defendant's schoolchildren appeared in court and stated that the defendant had ill-treated them and threatened them with the revolver, but this was not proved.

His Worship—You have no right to have a revolver. I fine you \$5 and order the revolver and cartridges to be forfeited to the Crown.

NO LICENCE.

Inspector Collett on the 2nd inst. caught Tong Hong selling intoxicating liquors without a licence.

The Inspector stated that the defendant had a licence for selling spirits at 54, Nulih Lane, but the licence was not valid for No. 54. The defendant had been told that he could transfer his licence for \$2.

A bottle of samshu belonging to the defendant, was produced in court; it had been bought from him.

His Worship fined him \$15 or a month. The fine was paid.

MOORING BOATS WITHIN THE LIMIT.
Police-Constable Thomas O'Hare charged four boatmen with their wives for unlawfully mooring their boats within 100 yards of low-water mark, between Bowring Canal and the Gas Works, between the hours of 9 p.m. and sunrise on the morning of the 3rd inst., in the harbour.

The constable said that at about 10 p.m. on the 3rd inst. he was on duty at Victoria Harbour between Peider's Wharf and Causeway Bay. He saw the defendants' boats moored within 100 yards. He had repeatedly warned them about it.

When asked if they had anything to say the defendants each denied being within 100 yards of low-water.

His Worship, however, took the constable's view of the case, and the defendants each paid the \$5 which he inflicted.

GAMBLING RAID.

Thirteen Chinamen took the mark for gambling in the E. A. Mess (servants' quarters), Bowen Road, on the 3rd inst. The first and second defendants were also charged with keeping a common gaming house. There was quite an array of articles for gambling purposes including a box of dominoes, dice, and cards, produced as exhibits.

Chinese constable No. 151 said that at 12.30 p.m. on Friday he went into the coolie quarters at the E. A. Mess, and saw the defendants playing *pu kau*. As he entered he saw the first defendant turn over his cards, and then money was exchanged. The first defendant was acting as banker.

Defendants all had an excuse, some saying that they were asleep, but Mr. Hazeland thought

they were very much awake, and fined them \$7 in all, and ordered all money and gambling implements found to be forfeited to the Crown.

BEFORE MR. KEMP.

DISOBEYING A BANNINGMENT ORDER.
Shik Ki Shun alias Lam Ki Lok, fisherman, was charged with unlawfully disobeying an order of banishment on the 2nd inst. in this colony.

Police-Sergeant Sim said that from information received he arrested the defendant on board a fishing junk in Cheung Chau on a charge of disobeying an order of banishment. This was an order banishing defendant for five years from the 8th June, 1899. The defendant answered the description given in all particulars. He was committed for trial at the Criminal Sessions.

COREAN TRADE IN 1899.

The *Echo de Chine* prints a report for 1899 on the Commerce and Shipping of Corea by M. Lefevre, the French Consul-General. M. Lefevre says the carrying trade was distributed among the different flags as follows:

Flag.	Steamships.	Sailing Vessels.
British	347 456,939	14 7,649
German	42 74,990	6 2,682
American	4 6,838	—
French	12 4,524	—
Japanese	21 27,141	144 8,476
Swedish and Norwegian	2 4,584	—
Chinese	178 70,665	28 2,306

Total 608 645,912 192 21,104

The British flag (the *Comptroller* adds) gained ten vessels aggregating 18,715 as against the year 1898, but the number of sailing vessels under that flag greatly decreased, falling from 18 in 1898 and 32 in 1899 to 7 in 1899 (the above table gives 14, but the table is apparently the record of tonnage visiting Corea, not of the single ships). On the other hand, the Japanese flag, which counted only 6 sailers in 1898, had 73 in 1899, an augmentation attributable chiefly to Chinese junks which carry on trade with Formosa under the Japanese flag. The German flag has remained stationary. The portion of trade shown under the French flag is by a steamer of the Marty Company, chartered by a Chinese combination, which attempted without success to establish a service between Santow and Foochow for the tea trade, an undertaking resumed this year (1900) by the Japanese Company, the Osaka Shosen Kaisha. Japanese business is represented by 22 houses (eight of which are those of Formosa), but, except one hotel imports coal, there are no more than hotel businesses of the second class, bannans and bleaching and photographic establishments.

In a series of notes on the different articles of trade Mr. Lefevre says the trade in live cattle continues to grow. In 1899 1,630 head were against 1,269 in 1898. The cattle are sent to Japan and Port Arthur. Corcan paper was exported in greater quantities than in the preceding year—1801 piculs in place of 919 in 1898. This product goes to China exclusively.

The export of gold in dust and in ingots rose in 1899, according to the Customs valuation, to the sum of 2,933,382 yoa, of which 883,995 yoa's worth went to China and 2,049,477 to Japan. It should be noted, M. Lefevre says, that these figures are approximate only, and without doubt much below the actual values. Gold being a main export of Corea, the Customs content themselves with registering the declarations which are handed made to them.

In a few observations on the origin of the production and the destination of imports and exports M. Lefevre says that as regards the production of the imported merchandise, Japan has the lead without the least doubt in cotton and cotton yarn, cotton cloths, matches, beer, coal, copper in ingots, porcelain, silks, etc. England has second place with cotton cloths, iron, machinery, etc. China is third with paper, porcelain, etc. The United States, fourth with kerosene, grain, groceries, clocks and watches, and railway material. Germany sends aniline dyes, media and medical supplies; Russia, kerosene, candles, soap and matches; France, wines, liquors, preserves, beer, perfumery and some Parisian articles.

In exports Japan also takes the first place. She buys in Corea, rice, harvest beans, cattle and gold dust. China takes second place, buying ginseng, paper, dried fish, and gold. It can be said, M. Lefevre remarks, that these two countries receive the entire export of Corea productions.

THE FRENCH LOAN TO COREA.

The following telegrams to the Japanese native press relate to the loan question now creating so much excitement in Corea—

PROBABLE PROTEST OF FOREIGN POWERS.

It is understood that the foreign Ministers to Seoul with the exception of the French and Russians will lodge a protest against the loan affair with the Corea Government. The contract with regard to the loan is reported to bear the signature of Min Hei-siki, Financial Minister, alone. The signature of Bok San-jun, Foreign Minister, is not attached to it. The former was induced to sign it by Yi Yo-yok. Many foreigners here are of opinion that the contract for the loan should not be allowed to stand, as it was only arranged by a few officers and the whole Government has not given its consent.—*Mainichi*.

AN ASYRUS SCHEM.

Tokyo, 21st April.

Mr. Hayashi, Japanese Minister to Seoul, and other foreign representatives were not aware of the progress of the affair, and the Corea Foreign Minister is understood to have been kept in ignorance until the time for ratification of the contract. The negotiations between the Corea authorities and the French Minister were very astutely managed. The total amount of the loan is five million yen, the interest being 5.5 per cent. annum. The loan is to be repaid in 25 years out of the revenue derived from the Imperial Customs. The principal security is the Customs revenue, but certain mining privileges have been granted the French also. French influence in Corea has thus increased to a remarkable degree. Details of the contract are not known at present, but the British Minister is understood to be opposed to the contract. The Japanese Government sent full instructions to Mr. Hayashi by wire to-day. The Japanese Minister to Seoul is applying for an audience with the Corea Emperor and it is believed his object is to bid the Emperor see what the Japanese attitude in the affair is.—*Asahi*.

BULLION TO BE HANDED OVER AT CHEMULPO.

Seoul, 21st April.

With respect to the French loan it is now known that a Cabinet meeting was called to consider the subject on the 18th inst. Twelve Ministers of State and other high officials were present. The proposal to effect the loan was carried by a majority of those present and the Ministers for Finance and Foreign Affairs signed the contract the same night. The con-

tract was immediately delivered to the French Minister to Seoul and copies were exchanged with the representative of the Yunnan Syndicate, one party to the contract. The contract provides for the payment of three million yen in gold bullion and two million yen in silver bullion. The interest is 5.5 per cent. per annum and the total amount being repayable in 25 years. Should the Finance Department fail to pay the annual amount it is to be paid from the Customs revenue. The loan is to be used in developing the colonies in Pingyang and for new coinage. Mr. Pavloff, Russian Minister to Seoul, has left for Japan to undergo medical treatment.—*Mainichi*.

POLITICAL OBJECTS BEHIND THE LOAN.

Tokyo, 22nd April.

From official accounts regarding the French loan to Corea it is gathered that the first report of the affair was received by the Government from Mr. Hayashi on the 19th inst. Two or three reports have come to hand since. These reports go to show that the contract for the loan was secretly drawn up by the French Minister and the Yunnan-jik, Premier. Mr. McLeary Brown, Superintendent of the Customs, and the foreign Ministers were entirely ignorant of what was going on, and had no knowledge of the negotiations until the contract was signed. The Corea Government proposed to establish a bank with a portion of the loan and to set aside the remainder for the reorganization of the coinage system, the working of mines, and the construction of railways. The Customs revenue was offered as security for the loan. The rate of interest is 5.5 per cent. per annum, and the principal is repayable in 25 years. On paper the loan is from a French Syndicate in Yunnan; but it is understood that the Russo-Chinese Bank will supply the funds. The total amount will not be paid in hard cash, a portion only is to be paid in gold and silver bullion. It is an established fact that Russia instigated France to open the negotiations. Russia is credited with a scheme to establish her influence in Corea in concert with France. Great Britain and Japan are not likely to pass the matter over, and it is understood that measures will be taken to modify the contract, but possibly not at present.—*Mainichi*.

Seoul, 22nd April.

The security given for the French loan is reported to include 44 mines under the control of the Imperial Household Department, beside the Customs revenue as previously reported.—*Mainichi*.

M. TAYLOR'S CONVENIENT DEPARTURE.

Seoul, 22nd April.

It is not formally provided in the contract for the French loan that the Customs revenue will be offered as security; but it is agreed that in case the instalments cannot be paid from other sources the Customs revenue will be appropriated. Therefore it is practically the same thing.

Mr. Hayashi, Japanese Minister to Seoul, will be received in audience by the Corea Emperor to-night.

It is reported that the Russian Minister's trip to Japan has been undertaken in order to be out of the way while the discussion of the Russo-French action over the loan is acute.—*Asahi*.

ATTITUDE OF THE MINISTERS REGARDING THE LOAN.

Chemulpo, 24th April.

Admiral Bruce, Commander-in-Chief of the British Asiatic Squadron, returned here to-day from Seoul with Mr. Gubins, British Acting Minister. Mr. Hayashi, Japanese Minister to Seoul, and Major Nedzu called on the *Barfleur* to-day, and the Minister returned to Seoul early this afternoon.—*Asahi*.

Tokyo, 24th April.

Mr. Hayashi, Japanese Minister, is said to have been received in audience by the Corea Emperor, but the Japanese Government is without advice of the kind. The British Minister to Seoul is understood to be waiting for instructions from London as to the French loan affair.

While one report states that the American Minister to Seoul rendered assistance in connection with the loan affair, another message, apparently of a more reliable nature, says he is opposed to the whole business and desires to investigate the matter thoroughly.—*Mainichi*.

Seoul, 24th April.

The Yunnan Syndicate will appropriate 500,000 of the loan to establish a bank. The remainder will be delivered to the Corea Government in six months time. The Ministers for Japan, Great Britain and France were received in audience by the Corea Emperor to-day, before yesterday.—*Mainichi*.

Tokyo, 24th April.

While the Russian Minister's departure from Seoul is outwardly reported to be due to indisposition, it is confidentially reported that he is the bearer of an important message for the Russian Minister to Tokyo.—*Mainichi*.

Seoul, 24th April.

The *Kojo Seibun* of to-day gives the substance of the loan contract. In one point the published account differs from previous despatches. This is, that the Corea Government will only receive Yen 4,500,000 out of the total sum and allow 500,000 for the use of the Syndicate in establishing a bank. The bullion is to be delivered within six months from date.—*Asahi*.

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PLAGUE IN INDIA.

At the Bengal Legislative Council, on the 12th ult., the Lieutenant-Governor, referring to the progress of the plague in Calcutta, stated briefly the facts. In 1898 the plague began in April and culminated in June. The highest number of deaths in a week was 22. In 1899 it began in February and subsided in April. The highest mortality was 278 in the week ending 7th April. In 1900 the epidemic again began in February, again subsiding in April. The highest point reached was 990, deaths in the week ending 23rd March. In 1901 it again began in February. It has again begun to fall in April. The highest point was 1,111 in the week ending 30th March. In each of the last three years there has been a strongly marked epidemic in the six weeks between February and April. What has been done to check or prevent this? In 1898 we began with segregation and inoculation. The segregation was of a different character from that hitherto tried, but you remember the wild stories, the wild credulities, the panic and exodus. Next year we tried disinfection. It was notably successful. Cases were few in which plague was found to have recurred in a disinfected house. It did not, however, prevent the spread of plague and in the epidemic of 1900, three times as severe as its predecessor, we tried the disinfection of all houses surrounding the infected house. In the interval of quiescence, between May and December last the plague officers of Calcutta, to whom I wish to pay a high tribute for their patience, tact and assiduity in their duties, succeeded in disinfecting every room in every tenement in the city. It was thus that we faced the epidemic of 1901. The two epidemics were identical in intensity. Was it due to the disinfection measures that there was no great increase in 1901? Opinions will, of course, differ, but I have myself no doubt on the matter. We know the intense value of individual disinfection. We have recent evidence as to the value of wholesale disinfection, as to the prospects of the future no man dare prophesy, but the experiences of the past are hopeful. Possibly wholesale disinfection months before the epidemic was not directly worth the cost, but people who a year ago were strongly obstructive now co-operate with good will, which is gratifying to all who have to do with them, and the next epidemic will be more easy to meet. In the *Mainichi* the spread of the disease has been very grave. The only measure you can successfully take there is evacuation. Wherever the plague has already been people have learnt its value. Villages that have become free have been re-infected by the too early return of villagers, or by the admission of people from infected villages. Against these dangers people are learning to guard themselves, but the difficulty of moving and persuading them is immense and nothing has struck me more than the rapidity with which the disease spreads in the rural areas of the district of Gaya, where the Collector has been more successful than any other officer in the province in winning the co-operation of the people in his measures. Gaya presents a new feature. The people have taken evidently to inoculation. Wherever they do so they shall be heartily encouraged. Its protective power, the period for which it protects, is still in much doubt and the experiences in the Panjab and elsewhere show that like every other measure we try, it is not a panacea but it does undoubtedly do good. It is not to be denied that the prospects for the next winter in the Mufussil are most serious. If the villagers will only help themselves, the remedy is in their own hands. The people of the Kaman hills, to whom plague is familiar, stop it at once by leaving their houses. So van the people of Bengal, and in many parts they have now found this out.

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NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

NOTICE

FROM This Day we have Authorized Mr. G. BRUSSE to Sign our Firm per Procuration.

HONGKONG, 4th May, 1901. [1180]

MESSMAN REQUIRED for the GUN ROOM, H.M.S. "GLORY," applications should be made to the Mess President. Number of Officers in the Mess average from twenty-five to thirty.

Hongkong, 6th May, 1901. [1179]

NOTICE

BROUGH COMEDY SEASON.

ALL OUTSTANDING ACCOUNTS must be rendered not later than 12 o'clock, TO-MORROW (TUESDAY), for Payment on WEDNESDAY.

HONGKONG, 6th May, 1901. [1186]

TO LET.

From the 1st June.

UPPER FLOOR OF HOUSE No. 166, QUEEN'S ROAD EAST.

Apply to—N. MODY & CO. [1181]

NOTICE

WE, the undersigned, hereby notify the public that the large farm, locally known as the TAI SHANG WAT, on the East Shore of DEEP WATER, near the village of CHUK UN, between the villages of KAM TIN and SAN TIN, is the lawful property of the TANG FAMILY who have been in possession for upwards of 200 years, and that unless the written consent of the TANG FAMILY is given, the public are warned against all impostors who are eager to sell, lease, or mortgage the property clandestinely without the knowledge of the Lawful Owners.

TANG TING IU 鄧廷樞
TANG WAN TAI 鄧運泰
TANG TIM SHUI 鄧添水
TANG HUNG YING 鄧洪英
TANG SHIU TAI 鄧兆太
TANG MUN KWAI 鄧滿桂

Hongkong, 6th May, 1901. [1184]

BEKANNTMACHUNG

AUS DEM HANDELSREGISTER.

AUS der offenen Handelsgesellschaft CARLOWITZ & CO., 1st der Gesellschafter HERMANN CASAR ERDMANN am 1. Januar d. J. ausgeschieden.

Die bisherigen Gesellschafter CHARLES WILLIAM BERNHARD von BOSE in Hamburg, CHARLES ERNEST RAYNER in Shanghai, FRIEDRICH CARL PAUL SACHSE in Hongkong, sowie die am 1. Januar d. J. als Gesellschafter der Firma ausgeschiedenen bisherigen Prokuristen der Firma MARTIN EDUARD FERDINAND MARCH in Tientsin, ADOLF CARL SCHOMBURG in Tsingtau, EDUARD MORITZ HANS SCHUBART in Hongkong, WILHELM WIEDERHOLD in Shanghai. Die Gesellschaft hat einen Kommanditisten, Kanton, den 4. Mai 1901.

KATSELIICH DEUTSCHES KONSULARGERICHT. [1185]

FOR YOKOHAMA, KOBE AND TSINGTAU.

THE Steamship

"AMBRIA," Captain Duckett, will be despatched for the above ports TO-MORROW, the 6th May, at 5 P.M. For Freight or Passage, apply to HAMBURG-AMERICA LINE, Hongkong Office.

Hongkong, 6th May, 1901. [1183]

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW AMOY AND SAMSUI.

THE Company's Steamship

"HAILOONG,"

Captain Enthus, will be despatched for the above ports TO-MORROW, the 7th inst., at DAYLIGHT. For Freight or Passage, apply to DOUGLAS LARRAIK & CO., General Managers.

Hongkong, 6th May 1901. [1177]

THE HONGKONG WEEKLY PRESS is

now ready and contains—

Leading Articles—

The Question of China's Capital.
The Allies' Mistakes in China.
Battles at the Great Wall.
Alliances, Old and New.
The Court of Arbitration.
The Special Jury Grievance.
Piracy in the Kwang Provinces.
A Suggestion for the New Territory.
The Crisis: Telegrams.
The Governor's Visit to Macao.
The Stranding of the *Solovon*.
The Special Jury Questions.
New Territory Cultivation.
Hongkong Coal Supply.
Concert at Kowloon.

Correspondence.
Vanchai Warehouse and Storage Co., Ltd.
Supreme Court.
The Vitriol Outrage.
The Royal Visit to Singapore.
Royal Hongkong Yacht Club.
Lawn Tennis.
Hongkong Rifle Association.
Removal of Cape D'Agular Light.
The "Ajax" Affair at Yokohama.
Hongkong and Port News.

Subscription, \$12 per Annum, payable in advance; postage, \$2.

Extra copies 30 cents each, Cash.

Copies can be posted from the Office to addresses sent, including postage 34 cents each, or \$1 for three copies Cash.

Hongkong, 4th May, 1901.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

THEATRE ROYAL.

UNDER the Direction of Mr. ROBERT BEAUCHAMPEL.

Representative—Mr. ALLAN HAMILTON.

LAST THREE NIGHTS

OF THE

BROUGH COMEDY CO.

BROUGH COMEDY CO.

BROUGH COMEDY CO.

TO-NIGHT (MONDAY), May 6th

(One Night only).

"SOWING THE WIND"

A Play in Four Acts, by SYDNEY GRUNDY.

TO-MORROW (TUESDAY), May 7th

(One Night only).

"A VILLAGE PRIEST"

A Drama in Five Acts, by SYDNEY GRUNDY.

WEDNESDAY, May 8th

LAST NIGHT OF THE SEASON.

"NIOBE"

A Mythological Farce in Three Acts, by H. & E. PAULSON.

PRICES:—\$3, \$2 and \$1. Box Plans at the ROBINSON PLANO CO. Late Trains 15 minutes after performances.

Doors open 8.30. Carriages 11.30.

Hongkong, 6th May, 1901. [1185]

THE CHINA & MANILA STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR MANILA.

THE Company's Steamship

"PERLA,"

Captain R. W. Aldrich, will be despatched as above TO-MORROW, the 7th May, at 5 P.M.

The attention of Passengers is directed to the excellent accommodation provided by this steamer. She is fitted throughout with the Electric Light, and is supplied with a Refrigerating Chamber.

A Doctor is carried.

For Freight or Passage, apply to SHEWAN, TOMES & CO., General Managers.

Hongkong, 4th May, 1901. [1178]

FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.

THE Steamship

"CATHERINE APCAR,"

Captain J. G. Olfert, will be despatched for the above ports on THURSDAY, the 9th inst., at 3 P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to DAVID SASSOON, SONS & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, 6th May, 1901. [1168]

THE OSAKA SHOSHEN KAISHA, LIMITED.

FOR TAMSUI VIA SWATOW AND AMOY.

THE Company's Steamship

"DALIN MARU,"

Captain T. Ogata, will be despatched for the above ports on SUNDAY, the 12th May.

For Freight or Passage, apply to THE MITSUI BUSSAN KAISHA, Agents.

Hongkong, 6th May, 1901. [117]

FROM HAMBURG, ANTWERP, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE H.A.L. Steamship

"AMBRIA,"

Captain Duckett, having arrived from the above ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading for countersignature by the Undersigned and to take immediate delivery of their goods from alongside.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before 5 P.M. TO-DAY.

Any Cargo impeding her discharge will be loaded into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 11th May will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 11th May, at 3 P.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

HAMBURG-AMERICA LINE, Hongkong Office.

Hongkong, 4th May, 1901. [1182]

LOST.

ON FRIDAY, May 3, about one o'clock,

between CONNAUGHT HOUSE and the PRAYA, via ICE HOUSE STREET, a SILVER HANDKERCHIEF BAG, with Dragon Top and Chain, containing Two Bunches of Keys, a Silver Pencil and Handkerchief.

A reward of \$10 will be given if returned to office of the CONNAUGHT HOUSE.

Hongkong, 4th May, 1901. [1173]

TO SPECIAL JURORS.

SPECIAL JURORS are invited to a

MEETING at the CITY HALL, TO-DAY (MONDAY), 6th May, at NOON, when the following Resolution will be proposed—

"That in the opinion of this Meeting the Jury system as applied to Civil cases constitutes an unnecessary hardship upon Jurors, and that the Government be asked to legislate for its total abolition in such cases."

Hongkong, 3rd May, 1901. [1163]

CARTRIDGES.

NOBEL'S SPORTING BALLISTITE.

Absolutely Smokeless and Water-resisting.

THE BEST NITRO-POWDER IN THE WORLD.

PRICE OF 12-BORE CARTRIDGES—

Loaded with With Powder

Powder only, and 1 oz of Shot.

Primrose Cases ..\$5.65 ..\$7.40

Pegamoid Cases .. 6.25 .. 8.00

Ejector Brass Cases 6.90 .. 8.65

5 per cent discount on orders of 1,000 and over.

Apply to Wm. SCHMIDT & CO., Gunmakers, Hongkong.

Hongkong, 27th July, 1897. [189]

ICE CREAM AND COLD DRINKS

AT THE

"STAR" COFFEE HOUSE,

13, D'AGUIAR STREET.

Hongkong, 3rd May, 1901. [1164]

OFFICES TO LET.

2ND FLOORS of Nos. 32A and 34,

and GROUND FLOOR No. 33,

QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

Apply to—

ON CHAI & CO.,

2nd Floor No. 32, Gage Street.

Hongkong, 16th January, 1901. [1234]

No. 2, CAMERON VILLAS, THE PEAK.

TO LET, FURNISHED, from Middle of

July to Middle of September.

Apply to—

H. W. BIRD,

Messrs. Palmer & Turner.

Hongkong, 4th May, 1901. [1171]

TO LET.

NOS. 2 & 5, RICHMOND TERRACE—

Immediate Possession.

Apply to—

LAU CHU PAK,

Care of A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd.

Hongkong, 2nd April, 1901. [1812]

TO LET.

"RICHMOND HOUSE," 11, ROBINSON

Road. Possession from May lat.

Apply to—

L. T. M.,

Care of Office of this Paper.

Hongkong, 22nd April, 1901. [1079]

TO LET.

A HOUSE in RYAN TERRACE.

HOUSES at LIGHTON HILL.

Apply to—

THE HONGKONG LAND INVEST-

MENT & AGENCY CO., LD.

Hongkong, 2nd May, 1901. [106]

TO LET.

TWO very spacious and well ventilated

TWO-STORIED EUROPEAN RES-

SIDENCES with GARDENS and TENNIS

LAWNS, each containing 6 Rooms, Bath-

rooms and OUTDOORS, in MACDONNELL

Road, on Island Lot No. 1,509.

Apply to—

TANG LAP TING,

No. 18, Queen Street, Hongkong,

or to

MOK MAN CHEUNG,

Butterfield & Swire.

Hongkong, 19th March, 1901. [1063]

TO LET.

GODOWN in DUNDRELL STREET from

1st June.

Apply to—

THE HONGKONG LAND INVEST-

MENT & AGENCY CO., LD.

Hongkong, 1st May, 1901. [1148]

TO LET.

UNFURNISHED, from 1st June, No. 18,

BRILLIANT TERRACE,

FURNISHED, with Immediate Possession,

The EYRIE, PEAK.

For Particulars, apply to—

R. C. WILCOX,

8, Beaconfield Avenue.

Hongkong, 1st May, 1901. [1149]

TO LET.

POSSESSION APRIL 1st.

NOS. 1, STEWART TERRACE.

Apply to—

J. W. NOBLE.

Hongkong, 6th March, 1901. [1081]

TO LET.

WITH IMMEDIATE POSSESSION.

NOS. 9, SEYMOUR ROAD.

Apply to—

S. B.,

Care of Daily Press Office.

Hongkong, 14th March, 1901. [740]

TO LET.

HOUSE at MOUNT KELLET SPUR,

now in occupation of H. MATHESON

Brown, Esq.

Apply to—

Linstead & Davis.

Hongkong, 27th March, 1901. [870]

TO LET.

A VERY spacious and well-ventilated

EUROPEAN HOUSE with a GARDEN

and TENNIS LAWN, No. 37, ROBINSON

ROAD, known as "FERNSIDE," containing

8 Rooms, Bath Room and OUTDOORS.

Possession from 1st June, 1901.

Apply to—

TAM Tsz KONG,

42, Bonham Strand West.

Hongkong, 13th April, 1901. [1068]

TO LET.

(From 1st April next).

TWO SPACIOUS GODOWNS, with

UPPER FLOORS for Dry Goods, Nos. 1

and 2, facing the Sea, and Situated at Ber-

cine's Bay on M. Lot 243.

Apply to—

JOSEPH & CO.,

1, Duddell Street.

Hongkong, 25th March, 1901. [865]

TO LET.

"RAVENSHILL EAST."

Apply to—

DEACON & HASTINGS.

Hongkong, 24th April, 1901. [1095]

BOARD AND RESIDENCE.

MRS. GILLANDERS

"GLENWOOD,"

21, CAINE ROAD.

Hongkong, 30th September, 1900. [869]

BOARD AND RESIDENCE.

COMFORTABLY FURNISHED

ROOMS, with Board.

Apply to Mrs. MATHER,

2, Pedder's Hill.

Hongkong, 1st January, 1892.

BOARD AND RESIDENCE.

MRS. SIDNEY JEFFREY,

"VERITAS,"

BRACE ROAD WEST,

FELIXSTOWE, SUFFOLK,

ENGLAND.

Hongkong, 28th August, 1900. [73]

AUCTIONS

PUBLIC AUCTION.

The Undersigned has received instructions to Sell by Public Auction, under Bill of Sale, on

TO-MORROW (TUESDAY),

the 7th May, 1901, at 2.30 P.M., at his Sales

Rooms, Queen's Road.

SUNDRY HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE,

CROCKERY GLASS and PLATED

WARE,

CARPETS and RUGS,

CAMERA, TYPEWRITER,

LADIES' and GENTS' BICYCLES,

THREE COTTAGE PLANS,

HONGKONG
BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

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"DAILY PRESS" OFFICE.
The only office in China having European
taught workmen. Equal to Home Work.

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KANG-ON.
Contractor, 30, D'Aguiar Street. Local
and Coast Port Buildings, Timber, Brick
and Granite.
Mechanics engaged, Estimates given.

CHEMISTS, DRUGGISTS, &c.

THE PHARMACY.
19, Queen's Road Central. Family and
Dispensing Chemists, Wines, Spirits and
Cigars.

THE VICTORIA DISPENSARY.
Chemists and Druggists, High-class As-
sented Water, Dealers in Photographic
Requisites, Queen's Road.

FURNITURE WAREHOUSEMEN.
A. CHEE & CO., Established 1859.
Every Household Requisite. Depot for
Eastman's Kodak Film and Accessories,
17a, Queen's Road Central.

JEWELLER

MAISON LEVY HERMANOS.
Diamond Merchants and Watchmakers, 49,
Watson's Building, Queen's Road. Also
at Shanghai, Manila, Paris and Hong.
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A. FONG.
The largest and most complete Studio in
Hongkong. Established 1899. Views,
Enlargements, Ivory Miniatures, Oil
Paintings, &c., 100, House Street.

MEE CHEUNG.
100 House Street, Top Floor. Permanent
Enlargements, Groups, Views, etc.; Devel-
opment Works, Amateurs' Requisites.

M. MUMBY, JAPANESE ARTIST.
Bromide and Ceylon Enlargements and
also colouring Photos and relief Photos.
Views of China and Manila. Work
done for Amateurs; No. 8a, Queen's
Road Central.

H. YERA.
Japanese Photographer, 13, Beaconsfield
Arcade, Queen's Road. Also Wanchai.
Amateurs' Requisites a Specialty.

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"DAILY PRESS" OFFICE.
Proofs read by Englishmen.

STOREKEEPERS

F. BLACKHEAD & CO.
Navy Contractors, Ship Chandlery, Sail-
makers, Provision and Coal Merchants,
Praya Central, near Hongkong Hotel.

BISMARCK & CO.
Navy Contractors, Ship Chandlery, Sail-
makers, Provision and Coal Merchants,
Praya Central, near Hongkong Hotel.

KWONG SANG & CO.
Shipchandlers, Sailmakers, Hardware,
Engineers Tools, Brass and Iron Mer-
chants, 144, Des Vaux Road.

MORE & SEYMOUR.
43 and 45, Des Vaux Road, Shipchandlers,
Sailmakers, Riggers, Commission Agents
and General Storekeepers; Sole Agents
for Shipowners' Commission ("Gray-
hound Brand") and Blundell,
Spence & Co's Commission.

TAILORS

R. HAUGHTON & CO.
Navy, Military and Court, 16, Queen's Road,
Opposite Kuhn's Carlo Store.

TOBACCONISTS

D. S. DADY BURJOR, "Los Filipinos."
Importer of the Best Manila Cigars, 25,
Pottinger Street.

WATCHMAKERS

DROZ & CO.
10, Queen's Road Central. Repairs of
Watches and Clocks by competent
European experts, at moderate rates.

QUAN WAH & CO.
DEALERS IN
ITALIAN MARBLE AND GRANITE
MONUMENTS.

DESIGNS & PRICES ON APPLICATION
at No. 1, Queen's Road East, Hongkong
Hongkong, 17th October, 1899. [1044]

OREGON LUMBER.

THE Undersigned, being closely connected
with the leading MILLS at PORT-
LAND and PUGET SOUND, are always pre-
pared to book orders for any specifications at
LOWEST RATES.

STIEMSEN & CO.
Hongkong, 14th February, 1901. [50]

POHOOMULL BROTHERS
57 & 59, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL
IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS.
Have for Sale,
INDIAN, Chinese and Japanese Silk Goods
For Ladies and Gentlemen, and other Articles.
Oriental Embroidery, Rugs and Carpets,
Jewelry, Cashmere Shawls, Ivory, Sandalwood
and Tortoiseshell Wares, Curiosities and Fancy
Goods.

INSPECTION IS SOLICITED.
Hongkong, 8th November, 1900. [27]

AMERICAN MACHINERY.

WE HAVE OPENED A MACHINERY
DEPARTMENT, and are prepared to
Furnish Prices, &c., on STEAM ENGINES,
GAS and OIL ENGINES, BOILERS,
PUMPS, LATHES, DRILL PRESSES,
PLANERS, PNEUMATIC TOOLS, WOOD
WORKING MACHINERY, HOISTING
MACHINERY, SAW MILLS, MACHI-
NIST'S SMALL TOOLS, BUILDERS'
HARDWARE, &c.

Made in America (U.S.A.)
Prices quoted F.O.B. New York, or c.i.f.
Hongkong.
REUTER, BROCKELMANN & CO.,
Hongkong, 3rd December, 1900. [125]

HOTEL

"BOA VISTA" HOTEL,
MACAO.

CHARMING HOTEL for Tourists to
Spend a few days in the Holy City.
Macao is 40 miles West of Hongkong, and
the trip is made each day (Sundays excepted) by
the Steamer "HONGKONG," Capt. W. E.
CLARKE, leaving Hongkong at 2 P.M., and
Macao at 8 A.M. Connection made at Macao
with Company's Steamer to and from Canton.
Cable Address—"Boa Vista."
CLARKE & CO.,
Proprietors.

For Terms, apply
206a
MANAGER.

EYE-SIGHT.

Mr. N. LAZARUS,
Oculist-Optician, of London and Calcutta,
may be consulted for SPECTACLES at
18, Queen's Road Central
(R. HOUGHTON & Co.)
(Nearly opposite the Hongkong Hotel).
Business Hours: ... 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

A Great proportion of cataracts and diseases
affecting those advancing in life occur to
those having some deficiency in the construction
of the eye—the many years of "Eye Strain"
ending in serious forms of disease. Glasses
specially adapted in youth to those requiring
them save and preserve the sight.

Constantly recurring headaches, spells of
dimness when reading, weak eyes, the letters
running together, any of these symptoms indi-
cate a deficiency in the form of the eye requir-
ing Glasses only to correct and cure.
Mr. LAZARUS supplies his SPECTA-
CLES only after testing the sight.

ADVICE FREE. [77]

A. LING & CO.,
FURNITURE STORE.
PLATED GLASS & CROCKERY WARE.
Also FINEST LACQUERED WARE.
FURNITURE ON HIRE.
13, BEACONSFIELD ARCADE.
Hongkong, 1st May, 1901. [145]

LAUNCHES FOR SALE.

TWO are—Length, 62 feet over all; Breadth,
11 feet 6 inches; Depth, 6 feet 6 inches;
Compound Surface Condensing Engine, 8 inches
by 16 inches; Boiler, 6 by 7; Stroke, 12 inches;
Working Pressure, 125 lbs.
ONE is—Length, 67 feet over all; Breadth,
12 feet 6 inches; Depth, 6 feet 6 inches; Com-
pound Surface Condensing Engine, 9 inches
by 18 inches; Boiler, 6 by 7; Working Pressure
125 lbs.

The above Three Launches were built in
Hongkong, October 1899, under the Superin-
tendence of Captain F. D. Goddard, Marine
Surveyor.

Plans and Specifications of the same can be
seen.

Please apply to—
TUNG TAI & CO.,
Engineers and Shipbuilders, &c.,
33, Praya East, Wanchai.
Hongkong, 16th April, 1901. [102]

BANQUE DE L'INDO CHINE.

WHEREAS the following UN-ISSUED
NOTES have been STOLEN from
the Premises of the BANQUE DE L'INDO
CHINE and which said Notes are expressed on
the face thereof to be payable at the Branch
Office of the said Banque in Saigon, the num-
bers of which said Notes are as follows:
Series Z 491 to 1,000 of \$1 (One dollar) each
Series Z 491 to 1,000 of \$1 (One dollar) each
The Public are hereby CAUTIONED
against purchasing or dealing in any way with
such Notes, as the Banque De L'Indo Chine
accepts no liability for the same.
By Order of the Chief Manager in Saigon.
For the BANQUE DE L'INDO CHINE.
L. BERLINOAGUE,
Acting Manager.
Hongkong, 24th February, 1901. [601]

FOR SALE.

ONE SECOND-HAND

HOE NEWSPAPER

PRINTING

MACHINE.

PRINTING A SHEET 27 BY 40

INCHES.

THIS Machine is in good condition, and

is being sold, as it has been replaced with a

Larger and Quicker Machine.

Apply—

MANAGER,
Hongkong Daily Press Office.

Hongkong, 1st April, 1901. [915]

C. E. WARREN,
BUILDING CONTRACTOR,
No. 25, ARDEN STREET.

SANITARY APPLIANCES SUPPLIED
AND FIXED. DRAIN, TRAPS,
WASTE PIPES, &c. CLEANSED
AND REPAIRED. Sanitary Board Notices receive
prompt attention. Agent for MOSAIC
TILES. Prices on Application. [199]

BAILEY & MURPHY.

CONSULTING ENGINEERS AND

SURVEYORS.

60 & 62, DES VEAUX ROAD.

Telephone No. 187. Telegrams "Contract."

W. S. BAILEY, M. E. M. E. E.
E. O. MURPHY, W. E. C. A. M. E. E. E.
Hongkong, 4th January, 1901. [132]

WOMAN'S WORLD:
DOMESTIC AND SOCIAL.

BY EMINENT WOMEN WRITERS.

[CONTINUED]

MAKING THE BEST OF IT.

BY MRS. C. TALBOT COKE.

Not a heroic or grandiose quality is that
described in the above homely words. Not a
quality which has produced deeds which live in
history, and yet one which tends, perhaps, more
to the happiness of home, be it in castle or
cottage, than any other we can light upon.
For this is, after all, but a world of imperfec-
tions, and he or she who lives happiest therein
must start with the resolve to "take things as
they are and make the best of them."

How many a sharp angle may be softened off,
how many a bitter word be kept unspoken, how
many a home-life glide smoothly, instead of
passing in wearing turmoil of bickering, where
this simple philosophy prevails.

And just as there are foolish beings who ex-
pect perfection in mere mortals, and cannot be
happy with those who are possibly only chasing
the same *ignis fatuus*, so are there misguided
folk who because they cannot have large houses,
gorgeously furnished, deem it useless to attempt
to make the home beautiful at all, and thus neg-
lect to make the best of it. Our sex should,
methinks, always rejoice that it was a

clever woman—Mrs. J. E. Panton—who
gave such an impetus to the love of
beautifying the home by starting the idea of
"home decoration" by correspondence, for this
(when not a mere random string of names, but
kindly, honest advice from the woman who
knows to the woman who doesn't) is a great aid
to making the best of it. That, however, is
somewhat beside my present task.

It is obvious that in making the best of any
particular house much will depend on the
house itself, and its position. Too many folk
there are like the lady in *Punch*, whose cry
"As well be out of the world as out of the
fashion!" Such folk in London will, for the
pleasure of adding S. W. to their address, pay
double the rent for a cramped little, or man-
sized flat, that would be asked for a house
of fine rooms in a less fashionable position, ignor-
ing the fact that it is far easier to make the best
of good rooms than bad ones. Having chosen
a house, and decided to furnish it, our mak-
ing the best of it "takes the form of
how best to apportion the money which can
be spent, and this, obviously, must depend on
the size of the house, income, social status,
and, above all, "ways" of those furnishing.
It always seems to me absurd that in settling
into a house so few women can rise above
convention. "The drawing-room is so dark,"
they cry, "and too small for many visitors";
the dining-room (and we don't give dinner
parties) is large with a fine bay window; the
third room, where we sit a good deal, is un-
happily small, and has a dreary look-out.

Now with a woman accustomed to make the
best of it as regards a house, the Gordian
Knot would be out in a moment. The dining-
room, all woodwork painted ivory, and a green
brocade-like paper hung on the walls, would
become the drawing-room; worthy of even a
large "At home," the despised drawing-room
would become a delightful roomy "morning-
room"; and the vilified third room, when
adorned with a rich yellow paper and bronze
green paint, would become the suggest of
dining-rooms. Yet, so conventional is the
average woman (and I say it after receiving
thousands of letters annually from other wo-
men of all sorts and conditions) that such a
proposal would come upon them as almost a
shock!

Nevertheless, every housewife reading these
words and possessing a grievance as to size, or
outlook, or position of any of her sitting-rooms,
is solemnly advised to think it over, and see
whether some such change round would not
benefit her house, and its inhabitants. Another
very frequently way of making the best of it is
in the use, or misuse, of space. An immense
convenience for the storing of elderdowns,
extra blankets, or winter clothes in summer, or
summer gowns in winter, is a really good fit-
ment cupboard in a long passage, or across the
end of a landing. "It would look so ugly,"
our passage are not wide enough to let the
doors open without inconvenience," are objec-
tions which may occur. The latter objection, of
course may exist, yet by having a cupboard but one
foot deep and sliding doors, such cupboards are
possible in passages of average width, and as to
appearance, if the cupboards are only made
three feet high they not only as it were, furnish
a passage, but are a convenience for a lamp, or
for depositing a tray, candlesticks, etc. To
make the best of these cupboards they should
be painted white, and have a pretty turquoise,
or fresh pink paper above them.

For passages have ceased to be given over to
the dread ugliness of the plain terra-cotta
wall-paper; or the square of the drab sanitary
paper with feeble brown maiden-hair and wild
rose design, which was deemed quite good
enough some twenty years ago, and which was
always accompanied by dismal brown paint, grain-
ed to imitate some imaginary wood. And while
on the subject of walls few words are advisable
as to the influence of certain colours on the
appearance of rooms. Bright red is a colour
the eyes loathe with difficulty, hence in a small red
dining-room the walls seem nearer one than if
they were covered with a yellow or clear green
paper; yet the average British decorator (most
conventional of mortals), still avers "Red is the
colour for the dining-room," regardless of the
fact that what makes cosy richness in a room
36ft. by 28ft., makes a red-hot chamber of hor-
rors, especially in summer, in a room 18ft.
by 14ft.

To make the best of a sunless drawing-room,
yellow, or a warm rose pink (with no suspicion
of purple in it, please!) should be chosen, and

every paint, if it suits the furniture. On the
other hand, a S. or S.-W. drawing-room will
respond better to a green or soft blue paper.
All papers should be seen by daylight and lamp-
light, for (though the makers are now more
careful in this respect than they used to be)
the lamp may turn a fresh green to a dirty
died, a fine yellow to a mustardy horror, and a
soft blue to depressing slate. I have even
known a wall-paper and a frieze, which agreed
by daylight light horribly at night!

It needs practice and a trained eye even dimly
to forecast how a paper will hang, but it is cer-
tain that for any room larger than 20ft. by 16ft.
a "zigzagging" design should never be chosen, else
will it infallibly rob the little room of any chance
of dignity or even individuality. A large
pattern, if flatly treated in two shades of the
same colour, need seldom be feared. But
danger lurks in such papers as a bold red design
on a cream ground, laudable on a fine staircase
over a high panelled dado-flatted white, but
which, if used in a tiny room, would render
artistic repose impossible. There is no doubt
that for spare rooms (one's own bedroom paper
usually needs to be a background for favourite
pictures, family photographs, etc.) gray floral
papers on white or cream ground, self-coloured
damask curtains, made in lovely colours now-
adays, and elegant carpet squares in two shades
of one colour, are quite the safest way of mak-
ing the best of it. A spare room cannot be too
gay, bright, and welcoming. Should, however,
an ivory suit of furniture be ambitious for one
of the spare rooms, we must change the above
tactics and let it shine forth against a pink, tur-
quoise, or fresh green striped paper, with a
frieze of tumbling pink roses on a creamy
ground, and a cream damask satin paper. The
woodwork and upholstery must, of course,
tone exactly with the suite.

The perfect carpet would be almond-green
pile, the curtains brocade, like almond-green
damask. But alas! too many women who love
their homes cannot thus always begin at the
beginning—there is that "heritage of woe,"
things which already exist in the house, and
which must remain. And here, *par excellence*,
comes in our "making the best of it!"

Unless a house has been furnished at that
most evil date, some twenty-six or twenty-seven
years ago, when nine people out of ten raved
about obelisk furniture, with gilt pilasters let
in everywhere, painted with highly coloured
birds and flowers, it is bound to have some nice
things in it. True the chairs are clumsy, the
sofas ugly, yet the kindly veil of chintz covers,
the least touch of grey satin and moiré-striped
pillows will transform them. The ponderous
"couches tables" of that date can be wheeled
into a shady corner, for a big palm in a gleam-
ing brass pot, a tall photograph screen in bright
brocade, and the big old china bowl of potpourri.

Is there no ugly old screen which could be
recovered and transformed, no old shabern
bureau (banished in the "obolized period" to
the housekeeper's room perchance)? Do the
spare rooms contain no dainty old pole-screens
only waiting for a red antique and due of
Romneys or Gainsborough's beauties to be a
treasure for the drawing-rooms? Many and
many a country house, priory, and rectory
hold, perchance in some despised lumber room,
treasures untraced and unheeded. Even
while the owners are a prey to self-pity that
fortune does not enable them to have a "lovable
room!"

The actual truth is that it is nowadays (save
with, perhaps, those who are absolutely poor)
males' propensity to have a really ugly and
inartistic room.
To show how brains and a little money can
overcome decorative difficulty, I will quote a
transformation effected by a personal friend
afflicted with all that was most evil of the
obolized period. She realised that the furni-
ture, though costly in her father's day,
would fetch nothing in the nineties, so to
sell was out of the question. The gloomy
furniture stood (as it always did in its prime)
against a dreary bronze and gold wall paper
with a sunflower and crane dado, the paint was
in two shades of bronze, the furniture was a
black wooden suite upholstered with peacock-
blue plush, the carpet being peacock-blue pile.
"I've just got to make the best of it," was her
verdict, and the result of her efforts was indeed
surprising. The walls were covered with a large
patterned yet respectful blue wall paper, with
frieze of old-world flowers (in a garland design
on cream ground), which led up to cream damask
ceiling paper; the gloomy paint, shone resplend-
ent in ivory. The pile carpet, dyed green, formed
a splendid background for the old-world friilled
chintz covers which hid the ungainly chairs and
sofa; the small chairs, enamelled ivory, had plain
(highly stained, but not buttoned down) seats
of leaf-green velvet. The cabinet, book-cases,
music-stand, and a corner china-cupboard had
all been turned from funeral black to creamy
enamel; old china had been found here and
there about the house and formed a finishing
touch to a pretty and essentially cheerful room.
The only thing deemed hopeless of reformation
was the odious built-up-looking over-mantel.
That went to the nearest sale, and in its stead
reigned a pretty but inexpensive ivory one,
long and low, its over-shelf supported by dainty
ivory pillars. This room was a typical instance
of *nil desperandum*. Yet its owner might well
have settled down to unvarying regrets as to
what she would have had, could she but have
chosen her possessions. As it is, she delights
in her transformation and in her triumph of
mind over matter.

Delightful it is doubtless to be able to buy
the best of everything, to dream and devise, and
not only dream, but carry out one's every idea;
and yet to a certain type of nature (mine there
is also a joy and triumph in clothing un-
favourable circumstances and making the best of it.

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